

Project Update: May 2012

We have now completed our first pilot field visit to Debshan Ranch. There were over 130 species recorded, with roughly equal numbers of species on sites in re-settled areas and sites still managed by Debshan. However, only a single Cape vulture was observed using the Wabai Hills roost, which now falls within the land holdings of the re-settled farmers. Indeed the lack of marks on the cliffs from vulture droppings suggests that very few birds have been using the area for quite some time now. More encouragingly, when domestic animal carcasses were put out near the roost to try and attract individuals of all vulture species, seven Cape vultures were counted among the nearly 200 birds observed feeding.



Left: Cultivated crops within re-settled farmland. Right: View of Wabai Hills. ©Ngoni Chiweshe.



Ngoni Chiweshe discussing birds with local farmers. ©Ngoni Chiweshe.